

Executive Summary

Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting

12/13/2016

District of Innovation Plan

Board Goal: ALL

Purpose of Report: Denton ISD District of Innovation (DOI) Committee (i.e. district advisory committee) has crafted a DOI Plan as per Sec. 12A.003 and unanimously voted to approve the Denton ISD DOI Plan as written as per Sec. 12A.005. The official Denton ISD DOI Plan is posted online at <http://www.dentonisd.org/doi>.

Sec. 12A.003. LOCAL INNOVATION PLAN. (a) A local innovation plan must be developed for a school district before the district may be designated as a district of innovation.

(b) A local innovation plan must:

(1) provide for a comprehensive educational program for the district, which program may include:

(A) innovative curriculum, instructional methods, and provisions regarding community participation, campus governance, and parental involvement;

(B) modifications to the school day or year;

(C) provisions regarding the district budget and sustainable program funding;

(D) accountability and assessment measures that exceed the requirements of state and federal law; and

(E) any other innovations prescribed by the board of trustees; and

(2) identify requirements imposed by this code that inhibit the goals of the plan and from which the district should be exempted on adoption of the plan, subject to Section 12A.004.

Added by Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1046 (H.B. 1842), Sec. 4, eff. June 19, 2015.

Sec. 12A.005. ADOPTION OF LOCAL INNOVATION PLAN; COMMISSIONER APPROVAL. (a) The board of trustees may not vote on adoption of a proposed local innovation plan unless:

(1) the final version of the proposed plan has been available on the district's Internet website for at least 30 days;

(2) the board of trustees has notified the commissioner of the board's intention to vote on adoption of the proposed plan; and

(3) the district-level committee established under Section 11.251 has held a public meeting to consider the final version of the proposed plan and has approved the plan by a majority vote of the committee members, provided that the meeting required by this subdivision may occur immediately before and on the same date as the meeting at which the board intends to vote on adoption of the proposed plan.

(b) A board of trustees may adopt a proposed local innovation plan by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the board.

(c) On adoption of a local innovation plan, the district:

(1) is designated as a district of innovation under this chapter for the term specified in the plan, subject to Section 12A.006;

(2) shall begin operation in accordance with the plan; and

(3) is exempt from state requirements identified under Section 12A.003(b)(2).

(d) A district's exemption described by Subsection (c)(3) includes any subsequent amendment or redesignation of an identified state requirement, unless the subsequent amendment or redesignation specifically applies to a district of innovation.

Added by Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1046 (H.B. 1842), Sec. 4, eff. June 19, 2015.

Objectives: The DOI Committee has identified barriers to student and achievement and local control in the following four areas: 1) teaching and learning; 2) student opportunities; 3) school culture/climate; 4) growth/management; and it has crafted a plan to provide for a comprehensive educational program for the district that identifies the Texas Education Code provisions from which the District of Innovation should be exempted which includes the following:

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- Sec. 25.0811. FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION
- Sec. 21.003. CERTIFICATION REQUIRED
- Sec. 25.092. MINIMUM ATTENDANCE FOR CLASS CREDIT OR FINAL GRADE
- Sec. 11.251. PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS
- Sec. 11.252. DISTRICT-LEVEL PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING
- Sec. 11.253. CAMPUS PLANNING AND SITE-BASED DECISION-MAKING
- Sec. 11.255. DROPOUT PREVENTION REVIEW
- Sec. 21.351. RECOMMENDED APPRAISAL PROCESS AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
- Sec. 21.354. APPRAISAL OF CERTAIN ADMINISTRATORS
- Sec. 21.3541. APPRAISAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM FOR PRINCIPALS

Operational Impact: H.B. 1842 (84th Session of the Texas Legislature) in part amended Chapter 12 of the Texas Education Code (TEC) to create Districts of Innovation. Districts are eligible for designation if certain performance requirements are met and the district follows certain procedures for adoption as outlined in Statute. The designation provides the district will be exempt from certain sections of the TEC that inhibit the goals of the district as outlined in the locally adopted Innovation Plan.

Results: The intent of this workshop is to both hold a public meeting with the DOI Committee and provide board members the final Denton ISD DOI Plan unanimously approved by the committee and its work towards developing a District of Innovation Plan. Afterwards, the final version of the Denton ISD DOI Plan will remain posted for 30 days on the district's Internet website at <http://www.dentonisd.org/doi>. Then, the board of trustees may notify the commissioner of the board's intention to vote on adoption of the proposed plan.

Other Options: NA